## Message Text

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CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: U.S. POLICY STATEMENT UN COMMITTEE NATURAL RESOURCES

- 1. FOLLOWING IN PARA. 2 COMPLETE TEXT USG POLICY STATEMENT BY AMB.FERGUSON IN CNR MARCH 26 ENTITLED "INTERDEPENDENCY: STRUCTURAL IMPLICATIONS FOR UN COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES."
- 2. QTE. MR. CHAIRMAN, THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS HAD THE FORTUITOUS OCCASION TO EXTEND TO YOU, SIR, OUR CONGRATULATIONS AS CHAIRMAN OF THIS FOURTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES. SEIZING THIS OCCASION, WE EXTEND OUR WARMEST REGARDS TO YOUR COLLEGUES OF THE BUREAU--THE THREE UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED VICE CHAIRMEN AND THE EQUALLY ACCLAIMED ELECTION OF OUR RAPPORTEUR. MY DELEGATION PLEDGES TO EACH OF YOU--AND TO YOU AS THE UNCLASSIFIED

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BUREAU--OUR FULLEST COOPERATION IN OUR DEBATES AND

## DELIBERATIONS.

I SHOULD LIKE FIRST, MR. CHAIRMAN, TO SHARE WITH ALL OF OUR COLLEGUES ON THE COMMITTEE OUR INTENSE PLEASURE AT JOINING YOU AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. WHILE THERE ARE SOME MATTERS RELATING TO THE COMMITTEE WITH WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET SATISFIED OURSELVES, NONETHELESS WE SHOULD HOPE THAT OUR PARTICIPATION WILL CONVEY TO ALL OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMON ENDEAVOR TO RESOLVE COMMON PROBLEMS OF NATURAL RESOURCES--PROBLEMS WHICH CONFRONT US FIRST OF ALL AS HUMANS AND NOT NECESSARILY OR SOLELY AS PROBLEMS CONFRONTING NATION-STATES DEDICATED TO ASSERTING AND DEFENDING PRE-EVIDENT SELF INTERESTS. OUR PARTICIPATION REFLECTS OUR CONVICTION THAT GLOBAL INTER-DEPENDENCE WITH RESPECT TO THE DEMAND, SUPPLY, AND OVER-ALL MANAGEMENT OF THE EARTH'S ENDOWMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REQUIRES THAT ASSOCIATED ISSUES, PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES BE DISCUSSED AND DEALT WITH ON A COOPERATIVE GLOBAL BASIS. IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT THIS COMMITTEE HAS BOTH THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE MANDATE TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT AND UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION.

THE U.S. PARTICIPATES IN A WIDE VARIETY OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL FORI AND PROGRAMS WHICH HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES HAS A SPECIAL AND CRUCIAL ROLE TO PLAY WITHIN THIS BROAD INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FRAMEWORK.--A ROLE THAT HAS INCREASED IN IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS DECADE. MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, THE RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO AWARENESS OF THE FINITE NATURE OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES. WE MUST EVEN CONTEMPLATE THE POSSIBLE DEPLETION OF SOME OF THEM BY THE TURN OF THIS CENTURY.

AT THE SAME TIME, AND IN CARRYING OUT ITS SPECIAL MISSION, WE BELIEVE THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE EVER ALERT TO ENTRAPMENT IN THE POLITICS OF NATURAL RESOURCES ISSUES. TREATING THESE POLITICAL MATTERS IS NOT IMPROPER-BUT IT IS OUR POSITION THAT THEY PROPERLY SHOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

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TREATED ELSEWHERE, FOR EXAMPLE IN THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA. MY GOVERNMENT IS NOW REVIEWING A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC POLICY ISSUES OF A POLITICAL NATURE IN PREPARATION FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. WE ARE NOT PREPARED, HOWEVER, TO COMMENT ON THESE ISSUES AT THIS TIME.

GIVEN THE WORLDWIDE RAPID EXPANSION OF RESOURCE-

ORIENTED ACTIVITIES INVOLVING EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, CONSERVATION AND MATERIAL SUBSTITUTION, AND IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE USE OF SCARCE FINANCIAL AND MANPOWER RESOURCES, IT IS, IN OUR OPINION, ESSENTIAL TQT ONE GLOBAL BODY HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANALYZING NEEDS AND COORDINATING THE DIVERSITY OF WIDELY-SCATTERED PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF RESOURCE AGENCIES BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UN FAMILY. THIS IS NOT ONLY THE PROPER, BUT THE ESSENTIAL FUNCTION OF THIS COMMITTEE.

SPECIFICALLY, THE U.S. BELIEVES THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

FIRST,--CONTINUING OVERVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF THE UN PROGRAM OF WORK IN THE NATURAL RESOURCES FIELD, TAKING COGNIZANCE OF RELATED ACTIVITIES BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, BILATERAL AGENCIES, AND NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OUTSIDE THE UN FAMILY.

SECOND--ANALYSIS OF THE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND
TOTAL LEVEL-OF-EFFORT ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS RESOURCE
SECTOR COMPONENTS TO PROVIDE AN INFORMATION BASE FOR
IDENTIFYING AREAS OF OVERLAP; HIGHLIGHTING IMPORTANT
GAPS IN THE GLOBAL EFFORTS THAT CAN BE FILLED BY ADDITIONAL
RESEARCH, TRAINING OR INSTITUTION BUILDING; AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.

THIRD,--INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON THE OVERALL GLOBAL NATURAL RESOURCE SUPPLY-DEMAND SITUATION; TECHNOLOGICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE-OF-THE-ART FOR EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT. ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE MIGHT WELL ATTRACT FVCAMVIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES INTO HERETOFORE NEGLECTED AREAS.

LAST,--POLICY GUIDANCE TO ECOSOC ON HOW THE UN PROGRAM CAN BE STRENGTHENED THROUGH COORDINATIIN AND GAP-FILLING, AND THE PROVISION OF GENERAL GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION TO NON-UN ORGANIZATIONS ON HOW SUCH EXTRA UN ORGANIZATIONS MIGHT BEST CONTRIBUTE TO AN EXPANDED, COORDINATED WORLDWIDE PROGRAM.

WE ARE MUCH ENCOURAGED BY THE EVOLUTION OF DEBATE DURING THE PRECEDING THREE SESSIONS. WE ARE ALSO IMPRESSED BY THE MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN THE ACUITY AND QUALITY OF THE DOCUMENTATION PREPARED FOR THIS 4TH SESSION. THESE DEVELOPMENTS APPEAR TO BE SYMPTOMATIC OF A HEALTHY MATURING OF THE COMMITTEE'S FUNCTIONING.

HOWEVER, MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, PARTICULARLY PROGRAM EVALUATION AND COORDINATION, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY FOR THE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF AVAILABLE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES.

THE CONTINUED ABSENCE OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT EXACTLY WHO IS DOING WHAT, AND THE TOTAL QUANTITATIVE LEVEL OF GLOBAL EFFORT DEVOTED TO VARIOUS AREAS, SEVERELY LIMITS THE COMMITTEE'S ABILITY TO IDENTIFY GAPS, FASHION REMEDIES AND OTHERWISE PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO ECOSOC, UN MEMBER NATIONS, AND NON-UN ORGANIZATIONS.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I TRUST WE MAY BE FORGIVEN IN OUR EXPRESSION OF CONCERNS WHICH TRANSCEND THE TECHNICAL PARAMETERS OF AGENDA ITEM 4. HAVING EMBARKED ON THIS TRANSGRESSION, HOWEVER, WE BEG YOUR INDULGENCE TO EXPRESS THE VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING.

WE URGE THAT PRIORITY ATTENTION BE GIVEN TO IDENTI-FYING, WITH PRECISION, THE TYPE AND FORMAT OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR FUTURE SESSIONS. THIS WOULD ENABLE THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND ASSESS

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THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UN FAMILY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FIELDS OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND WATER WITH MUCH GREATER CERTITUDE.

WE URGE THAT THE COMMITTEE, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE APPROPRIATE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, REVIEW THE INITIALLY ADOPTED GUIDELINES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING PRECISELY WHAT WEAKNESSES AND OMISSIONS EXIST IN THE PROGRAMS OF WORK ASSOCIATED WITH EACH OF THE PRIORITY AREAS SET FORTH IN THE GUIDELINES.

WE URGE THE COMMITTEE TO ADVANCE THE PREPARATORY PROCESS FOR THE UN WATER CONFERENCE.

FINALLY, WE URGE THAT ATTENTION BE PAID TO INSTI-UNCLASSIFIED

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TUTION-BUILDING IN GENERAL, BUT PARTICULARLY THE STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL AGENCIES INVOLVED IN POLICY FORMULATION, RESOURCE EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT, RESEARCH AND TRAINING.

MAY I NOW TOUCH BRIEFLY THE ISSUE OF PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTYOVER NATURAL RESOURCES? THE UNITED STATES OF COURSE ENDORSES THAT SOVEREIGNTY AND ITS EXERCISE AS APPROPRIATE. BUT THE RIGHT OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES IS NO MORE ABSOLUTE THAN ANY OTHER RIGHT. IT MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OTHER RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS INCLUDING THOSE DERIVED FROM TRANS-NATIONAL LAW. OUR VIEWS REGARDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES ARE OF SIMILAR IMPORT.. WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT WELL KNOWN DIFFERENCES AMONG US WILL NOT DISTORT OUR CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM BEFORE US--OR OF OTHER ITEM CONSIDERATIONS TO FOLLOW.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED "ENERGY ACTION PROGRAM," I WOULD LIKE TO DIRECT THE COMMITTEE'S ATTENTION TO ITS OWN "GUIDELINES FOR ACTION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES," A CONSENSUS STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES, OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES DRAFTED BY A WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED BY THIS BODY AND ADOPTED AT

THE SECOND MEETING. IT IS AN EXCELLENT AND STILL RELEVANT DOCUMENT THAT DESERVES CONTINUING REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT BY THE COMMITTEE. IT NOT ONLY SETS FORTH LONG TERM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS IN MATTERS OF ENERGY, MINERALS AND WATER, BUT IT ALSO REPRESENTS A BASELINE AGAINST WHICH PROGRESS CAN BE MEASURED. OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IS THE FACT THAT ALL OF THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED BY MR. BAUM ARE SUBSUMED WITHIN THE PRIORITIES ESTABLISYD IN OUR GUIDELINES. CONSEQUENTLY, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT WHAT IS NEEDED IS NOT NECESSARILY THE CREATION OF A NEW PROGRAM BUT RAZV ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENERGY ACTION ITEMS ENDORSED BY THE COMMITTEE IN THE GUIDELINES OF 1972. WE MAY THEN SEEK TO STRENGTHEN SELECTED COM-PONENTS AND FILL GAPS AS REQUIRED. WHILE MERE UNCLASSIFIED

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NOMENCLATURE SHOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON SUBSTANTIVE CONCEPTIONS, IT IS REGRETABLY TRUE THAT THE MERE TITLE "ENERGY ACTION PROGRAM" MAY TEND TO CREATE NEEDLESS PROBLEMS.

THE U.S. DELEGATION SUPPORTS THE EXAMINATION OF "TRIANGULAR ARRANGEMENTS" FOR RAISING INVESTMENT CAPITAL AS PROPOSED IN DOCUMENT E/C-7/50. WE WOULD SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT THIS POSSIBLE MECHANISM BE EVALUATED IN A STUDY BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WHICH WOULD ALSO CONSIDER OTHER ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE UN REVOLVING FUND FOR NATURAL RESOURCES EXPLORATION.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TRANSPORT. AND A NUMBER OF DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES HAVE ADDRESSED THE POSSIBLE LACK OF SUFFICIENT INVESTMENT CAPITAL AS A CRITICAL LIMITATION ON SUSTAINED OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OVER THE NEXT 2-3 DECADES. THIS SAME CONCERN HAS EMERGED FROM SEVERAL RECENT STUDIES OF THE SUBJECT BY U.S. INSTITUTIONS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT, IN THE SEARCH FOR REMEDIES, ONE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT NO VIABLE SUBSTITUTES EXIST FOR THE TREMENDOUS FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE WHICH LARGE PRIVATE PETROLEUM AND MINING COMPANIES CAN MOBILIZE AND APPLY TO DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD THEREFORE TAKE POSI-TIVE STEPS TO UTILIZE THESE FIRMS WISELY AND EFFECTIVELY BASED ON EQUITABLE PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS. A NUMER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE INITIATED NEW FORMS OF CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH SUCH FIRMS (AS POINTED OUT BY A DISTINGUISHED DELEGATE THIS AFTERNOON) THAT APPEAR TO BE SATISFACTORY TO BOTH PARTIES. OUR COMMITTEE MAY

HEREFORE WISH TO EXAMINE SOME OF THESE "SUCCESS STORIES" TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE TO BOTH NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND TO INDUSTRY.

IN CONCLUSION THE U.S. LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES TO HELP IT CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE AND TO DEFINE A UNIQUELY USEFUL ROLE FOR IT WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM. SUCH A ROLE IS OF IMPORTANCE TO ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD AT A TIME WHEN MOUNTING UNCLASSIFIED

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GLOBAL CONCERN AND PROBLEMS ASSOCIATE WITH EXPANDING AND SUSTAINING THE WORLD'S NATURAL RESOURCE BAYW REQUIRE PARTICULARLY CAREFUL ATTENTION. IN DEFINING AND CARRYING OUT SUCH A ROLE, WE CAN SEE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR PLACING THE COMMITTEE OR ITS FUNCTIONS WITHIN OR UNDER OTHER UN ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS FOR EXAMPLE UNIDO. WE INTEND TO HELP MAKE THE COMMITTEE ITSELF A VITAL AND USEFUL ORGANIZATION IN AND OF ITSELF.

WE OF THIS COMMITTEE ARE REPRESENTTATIVES OF SOVEREIGN STATES. OUR CONCERN, HOWEVER, TRANSCENDS THE ARTIFICIALITY OF SOVEREIGN CONCEPTIONS. THE INCREASING RECOGNITION OF THE INTERDEPENDENCE, NOT JUST OF STATES--BUT OF PEOPLE--SHOULD BE PERCEIVED NOT AS AN IMPEDIMENT BUT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BETTER THE HUMAN CONDITION. OUR HOPE IS THAT IN THIS MEETING, THIS COMMITTEE CAN BREAK YET ANOTHER LINK IN THE CHAIN OF NARROW SELF-INTEREST REGARDING THE NATURAL RESOURCE ENDOWMENT OF OUR PLANET. WE TRUST THAT THIS COMMITTEE IN ITS WORK MAY PROGRESS TOWARD THAT CONDITION IN WHICH EVERY HUMAN BEING--WITHOUT REGARD TO CONSIDERATIONS OF NATIONALITY OR IDEOLOGY--IS ENTITLED TO FAIR AND NOT DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF OUR EARTH'S NATURAL ENDOWNMENT. SHOESMITH

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